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In the third period, 1850 to 1869, during which the city was under the rule of the state legislature through "commissions," we find the debt increased to nearly forty-five millions, with an eight-fold increment of annual expenditure. A brief account of the Tweed Ring and of the political events culminating in the charter of Greater New York completes the historical part of the book and opens the way to the main subject. The author ventures the opinion that the combination of governing principles in the new charter will prove unworkable. He evidently favors "genuine council government."

After some show of a theoretical scheme the author proceeds in a practical way to treat, first, of the revenue; next, of expenditure; then, of the city debt. A final chapter on accounts and auditing will be of value to officials and experts.

The three revenue chapters, on taxation, special assessments, and returns from city property and franchises offer nothing novel and little that is instructive or encouraging. There is the same old story of the evasion of the personal property tax, of the vacation and non-collection of assessments, and the virtual exemption of franchises capitalized for untold millions, from taxation.

The two chapters on the city expenditure and the city debt are perhaps better worked out than any of the others. It is a curious historical outcome that the preparation of the budget is still entrusted to a "board of estimate" first organized by Tweed and perpetuated since with but slight changes in personnel and powers. The common council of Greater New York have virtually no voice in determining the destination of the eighty millions of revenue to be annually demanded. That the vast debt of the city (nearly \$200,000,000) which includes a large part of the Tweed legacy, imposes a *per capita* charge of only \$60 is a matter for congratulation. The history of the sinking fund of New York would be an excellent subject for a separate monograph.

The author of this book has fulfilled his modest task with credit. That he made diligent studies on the ground and in the local records, there is plenty of evidence. The book is well made, the plan is good, there is a bibliography, some useful tables, several ingenious illustrations, diagrams and an excellent index. There is no pretence of fine writing, in itself a great merit. The adjective "considerable" is somewhat overworked. No author could expect a work of this kind to be "a possession forever."

Recurring to the idea suggested at the opening of this notice, it may finally be said that Mr. Durand may have rendered a greater service than he proposed to himself.

WILLIAM W. FOLWELL.

Part XVI. of Dr. Reginald Lane Poole's *Historical Atlas of Modern Europe* (Clarendon Press) contains, first, a map of Europe in 1740, based on the Spruner-Menke map (but on which we note *Ryswick* and *Millhausen*). Next follows an interesting map of England and Wales before

the Norman Conquest, by Mr. W. H. Stevenson, on which, by an ingenious variation of typography, Anglo-Saxon names taken from Bede, Latin names taken from Bede, Celtic names, and names derived from the Chronicle and other sources are distinguished one from another. A list of the local names, with their modern representatives, is given. The third map in this part is one prepared by Mr. Hugh E. Egerton, which exhibits European explorations and colonies from the fifteenth to the seventeenth century. It represents Guiana as extending up to and along the south side of the Orinoco for about two hundred miles from its mouth. There are inset maps which show the North American colonies, the West Indies, the Guinea coast and the Indian Archipelago after the Dutch conquests, on a scale larger than that of the main map. The first of these places Hartford a dozen miles from the Connecticut, New York on the west side of the Hudson, Jamestown on the south side of James River, and gives Baltimore the date of 1632 for its foundation.

Part XVII. contains, first, a map of England intended to serve for the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, but especially representing the conditions of 1654, and the rearrangement of seats in Parliament effected by the Instrument of Government, in order to indicate approximately the distribution of population and property in the middle of the seventeenth century. London and its environs are shown on an enlarged scale. This map has been prepared by the editor, who has also co-operated with Miss Dorothea Ewart in the production of the next map. This shows the ecclesiastical divisions of Italy in the Middle Ages, with special maps of the Roman suburbicarian bishoprics and of the city of Rome with its ecclesiastical arrangements. The last map, by Mr. Egerton, is one which, upon Mercator's projection, shows the European colonies and dependencies from 1815 to 1897, and the states of that period independent of European powers. It is, like all the other maps described, well designed and beautifully executed; but it is unfortunate in assigning the region now covered by the two Dakotas, Montana and Wyoming to the Oregon territory, rather than to the Louisiana cession.

The first *Abtheilung* of the eighth volume of Dehn's *Koenige der Germanen* is a brief sketch of Frankish political history from 613 to 843, making a thin pamphlet of 108 pages. Nearly one-half of this space—46 pages—is given to the thirty years from 813 to 843, so that the first two hundred years receive very summary treatment. This division of space is made because of the author's more detailed treatment of the history to the death of Charlemagne in his *Urgeschichte*, to which constant reference is made. The whole is, however, scarcely narrative history, but rather a commentary on the events, and a statement of the results of the author's special studies and of his always decided and uncompromising opinions. Charlemagne, for example, displayed little originality. His work in all directions was to complete what his predecessors had begun. His wars were not due to political foresight, or to any unusual statesmanship. The great motive in the Saxon war was religious, the

expansion of Christianity. The effect of his work was to break up the old Frankish state and to produce results against which he would himself have striven most earnestly had he foreseen them. And yet he is rightly called the Great, and was a ruler of extraordinary genius. In addition to the clear statement which it gives of Dahn's own conclusions, the book will be found very useful for the frequent references to recent special studies, with the author's reasons for agreement or disagreement.

The *Annual Report of the American Historical Association* for 1896 has lately appeared. It is made up in two volumes, of which the second, Professor Ames's essay on Amendments to the Constitution, calls for more detailed notice at a later time. The first volume is a portly tome of 1313 pages, far too large for the convenience of most readers, but containing an unusually large proportion of valuable matter. We do not pretend to give an exhaustive review of its varied contents, beginning with Dr. Storrs's graceful inaugural address and ending with Gen. Greely's laborious list of the publications of the first two Congresses. Professor E. G. Bourne's paper on Ranke would seem to every reader deserving of special mention in even the briefest summary. Dr. Herbert Friedenwald's elaborate, and apparently definitive, account of the journals and papers of the Continental Congress is distinctly of that sort of material of which the Association should seek to bring out more and more; and it must increase public appreciation of the importance of the papers of that congress still unpublished, and the desire of historians that more of them be put into print. Professor Haynes contributes an interesting sketch of the activities of a Know-nothing legislature. The extended discussions of the problems of method in the teaching of history, here printed verbatim, naturally lack somewhat in strictness of form; but those who heard the many instructive things said on that occasion will be glad to have a chance to encounter some of the suggestions again, and to think them over at leisure. Professor F. J. Turner's paper on the West as a field for historical study is exceedingly suggestive, and is accompanied with Mr. Bradley's bibliography of Northwestern materials. Bibliographical work on the part of the Association happily increases. Mr. Friedenwald's paper on the journals of the Continental Congress and Professor Bourne's on Ranke have excellent accompaniments of this sort. Of other papers, we note Dr. Libby's plea for the study of votes in Congress on a systematic plan, that of Professor G. B. Adams on the influence of the American Revolution on England's government of her colonies, and that of Dr. E. C. Burnett on the history of the government of federal territories in Europe. The report of the Historical Manuscripts Commission follows, comprising, indeed, a large part of the volume.